STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE SUPREME COURT

(On Appeal from the Michigan Court of Appeals and the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland)

BRIAN J. PERRY,

VS.

Plaintiff-Appellee,

Supreme Court No: 129943

COA No: 254121

L.C. No: 03-053489-NI

GOLLING CHRYSLER PLYMOUTH JEEP, INC., a Michigan Corporation,

Defendant-Appellant.

ERRATA TO

APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL

PROOF OF SERVICE

DEFENDANT-APPELLANT GOLLING CHRYSLER PLYMOUTH JEEP, INC.'S

RONALD S. LEDERMAN (P38199) CHARLES E. RANDAU (P19214)

Attorneys for Defendant-Appellant 1000 Maccabees Center 25800 Northwestern Highway P. O. Box 222 Southfield, MI 48037-0222 (248) 746-0700

1/14 - (1.13

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | INDEX OF AUTHORITIES | . ii |
|------------------------------|--|------|
| | STATEMENT OF ORDER APPEALED FROM | . v |
| | STATEMENT OF ISSUES PRESENTEDv | vii |
| | STATEMENT OF FACTS | . 1 |
| | ARGUMENT I | . 4 |
| | DEFENDANT GOLLING CANNOT BE HELD LIABLE UNDER THE OWNERSHIP LIABILITY STATUTE WHERE OWNERSHIP OF THE SUBJECT MOTOR VEHICLE EFFECTIVELY TRANSFERRED TO KSENIA NICHOLS UPON THE EXECUTION OF THE APPLICATION OF TITLE BY THE PARTIES' SIGNATURES | 4 |
| ا ا | | . 4 |
| ATTON | B. Controlling Standards of Statutory Construction | . 4 |
| HER & F | C. Controlling Standards of Law | . 5 |
| SULLIVAN WARD ASHER & PATTON | 1. The Statement In Goins That "Execution" Of The Application For Title Occurs Upon Mailing Is Dicta And Does Not Constitute Controlling Precedent | .7 |
| ILIVAN | 2. Execution Of The Application For Title Does Not Require Its Mailing To The Secretary Of State | .9 |
| | D. Title Transferred to Ksenia Nichols Before the Accident Occurred | 12 |
| | ARGUMENT II | 13 |
| | PLAINTIFF'S RELEASE OF KSENIA NICHOLS RELEASED GOLLING OF ITS DERIVATIVE LIABILITY FOR NICHOLS NEGLIGENCE | 13 |
| | A. Controlling Standards of Law | 13 |
| | B. Plaintiff's Release of Ksenia Nichols Operates to Release Golling as Well | 15 |
| | CONCLUSION | 17 |

SULLIVAN, WARD, ASHER & PATTON, P.C.

ARGUMENT I

DEFENDANT GOLLING CANNOT BE HELD LIABLE UNDER THE OWNERSHIP LIABILITY STATUTE WHERE OWNERSHIP OF THE SUBJECT MOTOR VEHICLE EFFECTIVELY TRANSFERRED TO KSENIA NICHOLS UPON THE EXECUTION OF THE APPLICATION OF TITLE BY THE PARTIES' SIGNATURES.

A. Standard of Review.

Defendant moved for summary disposition under MCR 2.116(C)(7) (release) and (10). Under either rule, the standard of review is very similar. *See* Maiden v Rozwood, 461 Mich 109, 119-120; 597 NW2d 817 (1999). A party may support its MCR 2.116(C)(7) motion with affidavits, depositions, admissions, or other documentary evidence, but is not required to do so. Maiden, supra at 119; MCR 2.116(G)(2). A motion for summary disposition under MCR 2.116(C)(10) tests the factual sufficiency of the complaint and must be supported by evidence. MCR 2.116(G)(3); Maiden, supra at 120.

The appellate Court reviews a trial court's decision on a motion for summary disposition pursuant to MCR 2.116(C)(7) and (C)(10) de novo to determine whether the moving party was entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Rinas v Mercer, 259 Mich App 63, 67; 672 NW2d 542 (2003); Spiek v Dep't of Transportation, 456 Mich 331, 337; 572 NW2d 201 (1998).

B. Controlling Standards of Statutory Construction.

Statutory language should be construed reasonably, keeping in mind the purpose of the act. <u>People v Spann</u>, 250 Mich App 527, 530; 655 NW2d 251 (2002). If reasonable minds can differ as to the meaning of a statute, judicial construction is appropriate. <u>People v Warren</u>, 462 Mich 415, 427; 615 NW2d 691 (2000).